

? THE NEWS ?

Volume 1

Plainville, Mass., August 27, 1920

Number 2

OVER FORTY PROPOSE NAME FOR NEW PAPER

CONTEST TO CLOSE WEDNESDAY

Prize Burns in Committee's Pockets While Waiting For Satisfactory Claimant

Again "The News" appears without a "regular" name. Practically all the proposals came in too late for the Committee to choose a title in time for a cut to be made for this issue.

Over 40 proposals have been received. We publish some below. If you can beat any of them, turn in your proposal—and your chances are better for that prize if you propose more than one.

The Snappy News
Co-worker
The Co-operator
Bagtopics
The Mesh
Mesh Topics
The W. & D. Employees' Booster
The Mesh Bag Mirror
The White Dove
Partners
W. & D. Eye-Opener
The W. & D. News
The W. & D. Booster
The Factory Booster
The Pursemakers' News
The Pursuer
The W. & D. Shop News
The Joker
The Reflector
The Airomesh
News o'Mesh
The W. & D. Family
The Mesh World

God Save the King.

Sam Harker has returned from an extended tour of England and is now filling his former position in the Tool Room. While over 'ome, Sam conducted a personal investigation into the affairs of the British Empire, and along with other prominent men interviewed Lloyd George on the question of Home Rule. Sam says that he and Lloyd George agree that the Irish Question will be settled sometime but disagree as to the date of the settlement.

WANTED—A WIFE!

Mr. Rammel's Gold Department can show a record that any matrimonial agency, alive or extinct, would be glad to advertise. Within the last two months three girls in the department have looked and leaped into the sea which has so many little troubles. Not only that, but the boss himself took the dive.

All this is very impressive, but it is to none more than to Mr. A. Coren, probably the most accomplished linguist in the shop. Mr. Coren anxiously desires to find a suitable wife, in order to fall in behind the band. In his own country, he says, he would never have stayed so long off the matrimonial wagon.

Here is a wonderful opportunity for a young lady to secure a worse half at half the price. Any may apply, provided they are between the ages of sixteen and sixty. Looks are non-essential, Mr. Coren says, as they are all beautiful to him. He does show favor, however, to those who have hair of that Titian hue such as his own.

14 Karat

We had a beautiful picture for this space, but on bringing it to the printer we found that Ollie's smile was too broad to fit the column. Ollie, if you haven't already guessed, is none other than 14-Karat Gagnon, foreman of the die-cutting department, and famous golf-player. In this latter accomplishment he still uses an adding machine to figure out his score, but nevertheless expects soon to challenge Ted Ray.

NOTICE

I am content that the poem which was published in the last issue of this paper, referring to certain property of mine, should be appropriately answered. I refuse, however, to retaliate, as a proper answer to articles of that sort would serve only to lower the high standards of this paper

(Signed)

LEE J. HIGGINS

RELIEF GIVES OUT FINANCE STATEMENT

\$1,887.08 NOW ON HAND

Only Fifty-two Per Cent. of Employees Now Belong to Association

By Pres. W. J. Fuller

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

August 15, 1920

Net Cash on hand, Jan. 19,	
1920	\$2,343.18
Receipts to Aug. 15, 1920	1,377.55
	<hr/>
	\$3,720.73
Disbursements	\$1,833.65

Cash on hand, Aug. 15,	
1920	\$1,887.08

This is hardly a fair time to make a statement of the condition of the Mutual Relief Association, as it will be noticed that we are about \$500.00 behind the statement of January 15. This can be explained by saying that it is not due to an increase in the treasurer's salary but to the fact that the greatest portion of the sickness in the year occurs during the months from January to May, when influenza and colds are most prevalent.

In these four months we had an average of ten people drawing weekly benefits, while at present there are only two on the list. These are expected to be of short duration, and if this ratio continues we shall make up in the balance of the year what we have run behind to date. On January 1, 1921, we will be able to show as good a balance as at the beginning of this year. The expenses during this half year also include the bills for the annual meeting and for the closing up of last year's accounts.

We feel that not enough attention has been paid in the past to the Relief Association. There is now only 52 per cent. of the people in the shop in the Relief. We want that other 48 per cent. Every foreman and department manager should make it their business to see that when a new employee comes in they should be fully instructed as to the Relief Association—its cost, its benefits, and its privileges. Increase our members,

Cont'd on page 3

? The News ?

PUBLISHED SEMI-MONTHLY
by the Employees of Whiting & Davis
Company, Plainville, Mass.

PUBLICATION COMMITTEE

W. J. Fuller Lee Higgins
F. Gaddes H. B. Rowan
J. O. Gagnon O. Soderstrom

EDITOR . . . W. CODDING

COMMERCIAL PRESS-PRINTERS

EDITORIALS

YOU NEVER CAN TELL

Some time ago one of the men in the Tool Room got mixed up with the planer. He was away from his work several weeks getting repaired; long enough, in fact, to have entitled him to over \$50.00 in sick benefits. But he did not belong to the Relief Association. He does belong now.

Nobody knows just when he's going to get caught in a machine, collide on the corner with an automobile, or entertain a large and multiplying family of lively and husky germs.

And the biggest and healthiest of us sometimes hit the ground hardest, or prove the happiest hunting ground for the deadliest microbes. That is the time when the \$8.00 paid by the Relief Association comes in like a life saver. At least it saves a lot of worry, which alone is capable of putting most of us on the rocks.

Don't wait for a campaign. Sign now on the dotted line which any of the officers will proffer you.

A NAME

Are you one who hasn't turned in a proposal of a name for the shop's enterprise in newspaper making? If you are, don't criticize, but try to think up one you believe to be better than any of those so far turned in.

There are no restrictions on the names, outside of length. The present plan is to have a background or decoration either of the shop or of a mesh bag. Practically any of those already proposed could thus be used.

The Committee wants more work—and the possibilities have not at all been exhausted. The name contest closes Wednesday, in time to have the lucky one chosen and the cut made up for the next issue, two weeks from today.

FROM A FACTORY BULLETIN

"The Wigwam", the house publication of the Savage Tire Company, runs a department it calls "The Factory Bulletin." In a recent issue, this section contained the following pertinent paragraphs:

NOTICE OF LEAVING

Do not wait until the last minute to give notice of leaving. If you are thinking of leaving, talk the matter over with your foreman. Leave a good feeling behind. You may want to come back some time.

KICKS

Any employee having kicks or complaints, make them within the four walls of the plant.

It often does good to kick in the plant to the proper authority. It never does any good to kick outside. Put your kicks in the form of suggestions and drop them into the suggestion box.

DON'T DODGE RESPONSIBILITY

Dodging responsibility is a senseless habit that started way back in the Garden of Eden when Adam blamed Eve for tempting him to eat the apple and Eve in turn blamed the serpent. If mistakes have been made, be honest and manly about it. Admit your part and the part your men have in making them. It saves long arguments and puts you in the right light.

INCREASED SALARIES

The young man who would be successful should remember one special thing. Make yourself responsible for something—responsibility counts.

You will find that a business will give you back just what you give it. The cash in advance idleness does not prevail in any business any more than in life. The code letters for increased salaries are "C. O. D."

Authorities state that more accidents in industrial plants occur during the last hour of the morning and the last hour of the afternoon than during any other period of the day.

A COMMUNICATION

To "The News":

The thought uppermost in the minds of a good many is the manner in which we can make the dollars we earn at the factory cover our needs and leave us something to pass in to the Savings Bank Teller. It would seem that there are enough here to establish a system of quantity buying of necessities, thus to cut down our living expenses and still have the things we really need.

An association could very possibly be gotten up to deal in these things. It would probably take a little time and patience but the principle is to start.

It would be well perhaps to have suggestions from people as to the possibilities of such a plan. I should be glad to hear through the columns of "The News" any opinions or suggestions on the plan, whether or not it would be feasible in the Whiting & Davis Company.

(Signed)

An Employee.

KENNETH L. HEWES

With deep regret, "The News" announces the death on August 13 of Kenneth L. Hewes, son of Mr. and Mrs. William K. Hewes of Plainville. The funeral was held Sunday, August 15 under the auspices of the American Legion, John Edward McNeil Post, No. 217.

"Ken," as he was known to everyone in the shop, came to work with Whiting & Davis in May, 1919. He was in the Shipping Department until September when he was transferred to the Bench Department, where he worked until he was taken fatally sick. Before coming here, he was in the service, being stationed at Camp Devens.

Ken Hewes was one of the best-liked men in the shop and highly esteemed by the community. He took an active interest in shop affairs and was historian and war risk officer of the Plainville Post of the American Legion. In him, Whiting & Davis has lost an employee of whom they were justly proud.

SUPPLYING WORLD NEEDS

At a meeting of the American Iron and Steel Institute recently, Judge Elbert H. Gary, its President, cited these significant statistics:

"Notwithstanding the United States has only 6 per cent. of the World's population and 7 per cent. of the world's land, yet we produce of the world's supply:

Of gold	20 per cent.
Of wheat	25 " "
Of iron and steel	40 " "
Of lead	40 " "
Of silver	40 " "
Of zinc	50 " "
Of coal	52 " "
Of aluminum	60 " "
Of copper	60 " "
Of cotton	60 " "
Of oil	66 " "
Of corn	75 " "
Of automobiles	85 " "

To say nothing of 95 per cent. of the world's MESH BAGS, of which practically all are made right here in Plainville.

Hospital Runs Full Time

Fifty cases are now Doctor Cote's average per day. Most of them are headaches or small accidents such as minor burns or cuts, but more serious accidents are not infrequent.

On Saturday, August 14, Ray Swallow of the Wire Department, stepped on a charged wire and was thrown unconscious. He was carried to the hospital and stimulants were administered. He soon recovered.

Peter Ringuette was hit in the eye last Wednesday by a piece of steel. The steel cut through the lid into the eyeball. Dr. Cote, assisted by Dr. Tellier, of North Attleboro, successfully performed an operation, although the wound has not healed sufficiently to allow Ringuette to work.

Lilly Cote of Franklin was treated last week for an infection in her left hand which will keep her out for some time.

In this issue of "The News" we lack news from the Woonsocket and Middleboro branches, but we hope that in our next we may have both their hats in the ring.

RELIEF FINANCES, *Cont'd*

for in numbers there is strength, an increase in the amount of funds to work with.

We would impress upon all the employees, both old and new, the extent of the Reliefs' work. It does not guarantee to pay them their regular wages, but it does pay them eight dollars a week when away from their work because of sickness. A joining fee of 25 cents, and a tax of ten cents per week, taken out of the pay, amounting in all to \$5.20 per year or less than one week's benefit, are the fees of the Relief.

In order that every member may get prompt payment for their term of sickness, we would request that whenever a member is out, the matter should be reported at once. They will then be put on the sick list and the factory nurse will call on them to give any needed assistance. There have been a number of cases where the management did not know that an absent person had been sick. Sick benefits are good only from time of notification, and not from the beginning of the sickness when the officers are not notified.

It may not be known that the firm contributes \$10.00 per week to the Relief's funds. It is its wish that every employee join the association. Let every one work to that end and get the lacking 48 per cent., so that everyone may have sick insurance.

Fogelberg at Middleboro

Charles Fogelberg of the Polishing Room started to work on Monday morning at the Middleboro branch. Although he was one of the buffing force here, Mr. Fogelberg will do bobbing work in his new position.

For some time the polishing heads in the shop have all been in use, while in the Middleboro factory have been wanting. When interviewed this week, Fogelberg stated that he was particularly keen for his new job, and mentioned that Middleboro girls were keen for him.

RIDE A BICYCLE of national reputation. Arthur B. Squires, agent for Black Beauty wheels, E. Bacon St., Plainville.

FOR SALE—Pigs, eight weeks old. E. P. Ouillette, Stamp Room.

BASE BALL

By
Manager Frank Brown

By winning last Saturday's game from the American Legion, the Knights of Columbus clinched the pennant of the 1920 Twilight League. Previous to that, a week ago last Wednesday, Whiting & Davis gave up its chances to the title by losing to the American Legion.

But though the K of C has won this pennant, we challenge all to look out for 1921. We are going to be there with both feet. And there is one consolation about this season's race---we do not camp out in the cellar.

The team wishes to thank all the loyal rooters who gave their support during the season, and also to Mr. Whiting for his generosity in making it possible for it to appear in uniforms and with full equipment at the games.

Ray Fulton pitched for the Mason Box outfit in a game at Walpole recently and carried the team through with a win. He looks good for next year.

Speaking about next year's material, did you see Sheriff Crotty show his speed in that steal home?

We still have the Brown Derby in reserve, although we had several chances this year to pass it out.

"Land-office" is about the only word to apply to the business Sam DeBois carried on selling candy during recess periods. The profits were great enough to enable him to retire from the lowly Rolling Department and start out in the high class store-keeper's business on Park street. Sam hopes all his old customers will continue this patronage. "Variety" is his watch word and he says the girls can buy gum and hairpins at the same counter in his store.

What attracts Benny Labrie to Oakland Beach? Benny hasn't missed a week end since summer began.

Contu is building a new body for his Hop-Hopmobile. He will gladly accept any old boxes that aren't good for anything else.

CAUGHT IN THE MESH

Fred Lyons has returned from a stay of two weeks in Bar Harbor, Me. Fred didn't take his machine as this was his vacation.

Paul Stefani believes in taking advantage of all the newest inventions. Paul has traded in his right hand drive Overland for a left hand drive of the same make.

Great men like George Washington, Charles Ponzi, and Henry Desautels are always in the news. Henry, for instance, has so many accomplishments that we can't keep him out. This week Saturday he will stand on his hands on the edge of a bucket of soap suds. Last week his hands slipped but he now feels capable of performing for an audience.

Over 1800 bottles of soft drinks were served at the Outing at the Pomham Club. Were they enough to relieve the thirst?

O. L. Walden, of the Bench Department, gets paid for forty-eight hours whether he works or not, having been with the firm for forty-four years.

HEALTH HINTS

Under this head, Dr. Bertha G. Cote, the factory nurse, will write for every issue a short article on sanitary conditions about the shop and on precautionary measures for health.

When something is called to your attention, you all are willing to learn—you want to know all about it. Here is something—do you know that to use another person's drinking cup, or to dry your hands on some one else's towel, is a serious danger to you?

IT IS—and for that reason you are all asked to get your own glasses and towels. Consider the risk you take in this matter and for your own protection, follow the rules of hygiene.

Bertha G. Cote.

You can't be healthy, pretty, or even good, unless you keep clean.
—U. S. Railroad Administration Bulletin.

Mr. Morgan is certainly getting after the lawn and putting it in fine shape. When the new power lawn mower first came he had it going so fast he had to run to keep up with it. He has, however, evidently got tired of his exertions for he will shortly attach a horn to the machine, to keep track of its whereabouts and yet allow him to follow it at a leisurely walk.

The Womens' Relief Corps here in Plainville is again open for membership. Here's where Mr. Fuller shines.

Someone said gasoline is cheaper. The reason given is that Horace Cheever was touring in his Overland as far away as Franklin last week-end.

It is all off with the new restaurant now. Bill Sweet has found the latest formula for knocking out the high cost of living. He claims that an ice-cream cone and a couple of Sweet Caps is sufficient for any man's dinner.

John Brant wishes us to state that he is in the market for Fords, since he he desires to perfect his sedan with newer parts. The secret is that John has started a penny bank and will offer you at least half what you think your Ford is worth.

Mr. Gunner of the Gold Department, champion dietician of the whole shop, made a trip last week to New York in the interests of the wet plank. According to him, he did not slip once.

That either an extremely rich uncle is about to leave Louis his money, or else something equally important is about to happen, is evidenced by the great joy with which Louis Babcock carries on his work. He fails to divulge the secret.

Members of the Gold Department claim their's is the worst location in the shop. The reason is apparent. It is immediately adjacent to Mrs. Simpson's kitchen. This would be tough on anyone. Mrs. Simpson usually begins canning around 10.30 a. m., and the Department immediately feels hungry as the smells of peaches and other fruits waft in.

Think what the sad sea waves of Maine are missing. Miss Yuill of the Gold Department was prevented at the last moment from going to Old Orchard on her vacation.

Ed Hurlin has purchased a new Essex. Far be it from us to publish any free advertising, but Ed's sole line of conversation is the eminent qualities of the car. Ed ought to know, however. He went to Sag Harbor, from there to New York, and back to Plainville to try it out.

Harry Rowan says that age is no handicap—that is, the age of a Stutz. This vacation he took a trip to Washington, stopping in Philadelphia and Baltimore en route.

Miss Beatrice Burton has left the low-brow Foreign Department to return to school.

Harry Kenerson, who for the past year has been employed in the Mesh Room, has resigned his position. He has sold his property here and will leave in a few weeks for Elderbank, near Halifax, Nova Scotia.

Miss Elsie Quirk has returned after a thorough boiling out.

Mr. Wilfred Andrews now holds the honorable position of errand boy of the Mesh Room, through default of Mr. Henry Dargis. Mr. Dargis felt that he could carry out his errands of love while walking home after work completely enough. Evidently he has learned the old adage: Business before pleasure.

The quartet in the Coloring Room is now practising on the popular tune: "I'll Do It," by Matt Brennan.

Ed Corrigan is achieving great success in the Coloring Room as deficiency expert.

It took Frank O'Donnell two weeks work after hours to fix his Scripps-Booth so that it would go. Now that he has it in perfect running order, Frank expects to work nights. "Can you beat it?" Frank inquires.

Ask Boenkce how things were rolling in Milford the other night. Why Montreal, when Milford is so near?